

Message Text

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FM AMCONSUL MUNICH
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INFO USMISSION BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL DUESSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
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UNCLAS MUNICH 0906

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, GW

SUBJECT: CONVENTION OF BAVARIAN FDP

1. SUMMARY. SPEECH BY FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER WAS HIGHLIGHT OF BAVARIAN FDP CONVENTION HELD IN NUERNBERG JUNE 16 AND 17 TO APPROVE PLATFORM FOR OCTOBER 27 LANDTAG ELECTIONS. MAIN EFFORT AT CONVENTION WAS DEVOTED TO PRESENTING FDP AS INDEPENDENT, REFORM-MINDED PARTY, AND NOT APPENDAGE OF SPD. IN PROCESS, HOWEVER, NOTICEABLE TILT TOWARD SPD EMERGED. SLOGAN FOR ELECTIONS WAS "BREAK CSU MAJORITY". SPEAKERS INDICATED FDP WOULD BE AGREEABLE TO COALITION WITH SPD, PROVIDED LATTER AGREED TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS CONCERNING FDP'S INDEPENDENT STATUS. NO MENTION WAS MADE OF POSSIBLE COALITION WITH CSU, OTHER THAN AS THEORETICAL POSSIBILITY. IN NUERNBERG INTERVIEW GENSCHER DENIED FOREIGN POLICY DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND LAST ONE, AND HE MAINTAINED ALLIES HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO FRG ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY IN BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

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2. GENSCHER, WHO SQUEEZED HIS APPEARANCE IN NUERNBERG IN BETWEEN LONDON AND OTTAWA VISITS, SPOKE IN CAPACITY OF ACTING FDP NATIONAL CHAIRMAN, WITH ECHOES OF FOREIGN MINSITER COMING IN FROM TIME TO TIME TO REMIND AUDIENCE OF HIS, AND FDP'S, ROLE ON NATIONAL LEVEL (POINT HE FURTHER EMPHASIZED WITH TRIBUTE TO ERTL'S AGRICULTURAL POLICIES). HIS PERFORMANCE WAS IMPRESSIVE, AND HE AROUSED MORE ENTHUSIASTIC RESPONSE THAN EVEN HIGHLY POPULAR ERTL. GENSCHER SET TONE FOR CONVENTION'S EMPHASIS ON INDEPENDENCE OF FDP, BUT IN DOING SO DEFENDED COALITION WITH SPD AND SOUGHT TO PRESENT FDP AS LOYAL COALITION PARTNER. HE GAVE CLEAR IMPRESSION, HOWEVER, THAT FDP WOULD BE MORE DIFFICULT PARTY WITH WHICH TO WORK THAN IT HAD BEEN IN THE PAST. IN MAINTAINING THAT UNDER THREE-PARTY SYSTEM EACH PARTY SHOULD BE IN PRINCIPLE CAPABLE OF JOINING IN COALITION, HE ADDED THAT THIS REQUIRED WILLINGNESS TO AGREE ON JOINT PROGRAM. IN 1969, HE SAID, FDP REALIZED THAT INTEGRATION IN WEST, MOVEMENT IN RELATIONS TO EAST AND ACHIEVEMENT OF INTERNAL REFORMS WERE POSSIBLE ONLY IN ALLIANCE WITH SPD. HOWEVER, IF FDP MADE ALLIANCE PERMANENT, IT WOULD THROW INTO QUESTION THE EXISTENCE OF THE PARTY. WITH WHICHEVER PARTY FDP FORMS COALITION, HE SAID, "WE ARE FREE DEMOCRATS FIRST, AND COALITION PARTNERS SECOND." FDP, HE SAID, WANTS A CITIZENS' STATE, NOT AN INDUSTRIALISTS' STATE OR A TRADE UNION STATE. IT WOULD "STORM" RED RATHAEUSER WITH THE CDU AND BLACK LANDTAGE WITH THE SPD. IN SEEKING TO PRESENT FDP AS PARTY FOR REFORM (THE ONLY VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO REVOLUTION), HE ALSO INSISTED THAT LIMITS TO REFORM MUST BE SET, AND THIS WAS FDP'S TASK. HE STRESSED, IN THIS CONNECTION, IMPORTANCE OF CITIZENS' DUTIES AS WELL AS OF THEIR RIGHTS.

3. GENSCHER ALSO GAVE EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW TO NUERNBERGER NACHRICHTEN, DEVOTED MOSTLY TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS. HE STATED THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE IN BASIC PRINCIPLES OF FOREIGN POLICY BETWEEN PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND THE LAST. SECURITY, HE SAID, IS GUARANTEED BY NATO, AND WITHOUT NATO NO REAL DETENTE IS POSSIBLE. MORE ATTENTION WAS CURRENTLY BEING PAID TO WESTERN POLICY, PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF CIRCUMSTANCES, SUCH AS FRG CHAIRMANSHIP OF EC. ASKED WHETHER WESTERN ALLIES HAD MISGIVINGS OVER ESTABLISHMENT OF FEDERAL

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ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY IN BERLIN GENSCHER REPLIED THEY DID NOT. HE COULD SAY THIS AFTER CONVERSATIONS HE HAS HAD IN RECENT WEEKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE THREE.

4. AIRGRAM ON CONVENTION FOLLOWS.SPIVACK

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